

**Security Council**

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Letter dated 23 November 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I should like to inform you of the aggression carried out by Kuwaiti forces against an Iraqi fishing vessel. Details are set forth below:

1. On 8 October 2000 the Coronado-type vessel No. 1537/Basra left port with its crew of Ahmad Yusuf, Badr Ahmad Habib, Hazman Muhammad Salih, Kathim Qasim Ulum and Qasim Ahmad Habib, in order to fish in Iraqi territorial waters at coordinates within 51 N longitude and 46 E latitude.
2. On 10 October 2000 a Kuwaiti naval patrol infiltrated Iraqi territorial waters and arrested the crew of the above-mentioned vessel, which was inside Iraqi territorial waters, near the buoys at Khawr al-Zubayr. The crew members were taken to Kuwaiti territory and imprisoned for three days, during which they were beaten and tortured by the prison authorities, while the vessel and its appurtenances were seized.
3. At 1800 hours on 13 October 2000, the crew members were released and taken in a vehicle to a remote location opposite the Safwan area, where they boarded a Landcruiser-type vehicle and were driven to Zubayr province.
4. On 1 November 2000 the crew informed the headquarters of the Nasr Fishing Company in Faw of what had taken place.

The acts of aggression and piracy committed by the Kuwaiti forces constitute a material violation of Iraqi territorial waters and blatant hostility towards Iraqi citizens who were fishing in Iraqi territorial waters. They are part of a catalogue of daily acts of aggression carried out against Iraq by the Kuwaiti regime, which provides facilities, funding and air bases for the United States and British aircraft that launch brutal daily attacks on Iraqi territory inside the unlawful no-fly zones.

I urge you to intervene with the Kuwaiti regime in order to halt forthwith such acts of aggression, which constitute a violation of the Charter of the United Nations and the provisions of international law. I also affirm the legally established right of the Republic of Iraq to compensation for the damage caused by such hostile acts, in accordance with the principle of international responsibility.



I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. Hasan
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
